

VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE

www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpsc

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on
Tuesday, July 21, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**We will meet in the second floor conference room at DEQ's
downtown office, 629 E Main Street, Richmond VA 23219.**

For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or
email mamassie@deq.virginia.gov

Meeting Summary: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Valerie Rourke, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Jutta Schneider, Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Division
Micah Raub, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Brian Benham, Virginia Cooperative Extension/BSE (conf. call)
Grier Mills, Department of General Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
George Harlow, US Geological Survey
Barry Matthews, Department of Health
Lynn Haynes, Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy

Our guests were:

Nancy Saylor, Environmental Policy Consulting, LLC
Cathy Westerman, Department of General Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
Liza Fleeson, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Fred Cunningham, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Steve Stell, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division
Gigi Meyer, Department of Health
Christopher Krambis, Schnabel Engineering
Gayl Fowler – SAIF Water Wells Inc.
Hope White, Virginia Cooperative Extension/BSE (conf. call)
Joey O'Quinn, Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (conf. call)
Mike Smith, Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (conf. call)
Anthony Creech, Resource International Inc.

Agencies not in attendance:

Department of Business Assistance, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Nancy Saylor, Environmental Policy Consulting for the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, and Cathy Westerman, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, gave an informative presentation on the Environmental Laboratory Certification Program. The regulations for this program became effective January 2009. The purpose of the program is to ensure that laboratories provide accurate and consistent tests, analyses, measurements and monitoring of samples associated with DEQ's Waste, Water, and Air programs. Commercial laboratories must meet the 2003 National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) standards to be certified under the program. Noncommercial laboratories must meet a limited version of these standards. Laboratories will be certified by fields of certification. Fields of certification are defined by matrix, technology/method, and analyte. The matrices offered are air emissions, nonpotable water, solids, and biological tissue. While potable water is not covered, DCLS will offer a combined drinking water/environmental laboratory certification for laboratories performing both drinking water and environmental testing. DCLS and DEQ will be working closely together to implement the program through an MOU executed in 2000 that is now undergoing revision. DCLS and DEQ estimate that approximately 800 environmental laboratories will be certified under the program. DCLS is required to become an accredited NELAC laboratory as well as an accrediting body under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP). DCLS performs analyses that support many regulatory programs within DEQ. DCLS will not be able to issue certificates of NELAC accreditation to commercial laboratories until it becomes an accrediting body under NELAP. DCLS will begin its review of these laboratories following the application deadline of July 1 for commercial laboratories. DCLS should have its NELAP accrediting body status by 2010. Applications for noncommercial laboratories are due September 29th. The 2003 NELAC standards are available at the NELAC Institute website, www.nelac-institute.org

Documents associated with the Environmental Laboratory Certification Program can be found at www.vwea.org in the downloadable documents section under Resources.

Nancy Saylor is available to respond to questions about the regulation nssaylor@verizon.net

Cathy Westerman is available to respond to questions about program implementation at DCLS Cathy.Westerman@dgs.virginia.gov

AGENCY UPDATES:

Department of Environmental Quality

Mary Ann Massie noted she will be working with VDH to issue another wellhead protection implementation RFP in early July. Communities with ground water based public water supplies are encouraged to apply under this competitive program for funds to implement protection activities.

Work on the FY2010 grant workplan will be underway in the coming months as well.

There were no updates from the Waste Division.

Valerie Rourke, Office of Land Application Programs/Water Div., reported development of a Water Reclamation/Reuse program web page on the DEQ website <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/vpa/waterreuse.html>

The page provides information on permits that may be needed, permit application forms, possible sources of funding and a link to the Water Reclamation and Reuse Regulation. A FAQ (Frequently Asked Question) sheet for water reclamation and reuse is currently under development and when completed will also be posted on the program page and made available at various public events. Draft implementation guidance for the Water Reclamation and Reuse Regulation continues to undergo further revision and review. Valerie noted she will be speaking about the Water Reclamation and Reuse Regulation at the VRWA training in Roanoke on March 23, 2009.

She reported the draft amendments to the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) General Permit Regulation for Poultry Waste Management will be presented on April 27, 2009, to the State Water Control Board for approval to advertise for public comment. The major amendments to this regulation are new requirements for persons receiving litter.

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that is working on amendments to the VPDES and VPA Permit Regulations and the Fee Regulation related to biosolids land application, is scheduled to meet this Friday, March 20th, at the DEQ Piedmont Regional Office. During these meetings, the TAC generally discusses consistency between the permit regulations and various programmatic issues.

Valerie noted EPA has released a new Federal rule on Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that determines when CAFOs already covered by the VPA General Permit need to be covered by a VPDES General Permit instead. This new rule is expected to affect only a small number of CAFOs in Virginia.

Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy

Lynn Haynes commented on staff reductions within the Department but specifically within the Division of Geology and Mineral Resources. The State geologist position is vacant. Mr. Steve Walz has been named director of the agency following Mr. Wampler's retirement.

Virginia Tech, Biological Systems Engineering – Virginia Cooperative Extension

Brian Benham reported sixteen county based Household Water Quality Programs are scheduled in 2009. They anticipate reaching 2500 households. A Master Well Owner Network training is scheduled for late May and early summer.

Additional information can be found at their web site

www.wellwater.bse.vt.edu

Department of General Services, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services

Grier Mills reported staff collaboration on the NELAC application and noted they will be recruiting staff to fill new positions for program implementation.

Department of Health

Barry Matthews reported the contract for source water protection technical assistance was awarded to Olver Inc. Olver will begin work on priority 1 systems. Four regional meetings have been set up across the State with waterworks owners and VDH Field Staff for program familiarization. Mary Ann Massie, DEQ, offered DEQ support at these meetings.

Barry also mentioned interest in building GIS skills to utilize assessments completed under the SWAP for interagency program support.

VDH has received funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and will be evaluating applications for waterworks construction assistance in the future.

Visit their web page for more details

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/DrinkingWater/financial/dwfundingprogramdetails.htm>

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Micah Raub continues to collect existing water quality data on pesticides. Analysis of this data will be utilized to target outreach and education programs in the Commonwealth.

US Geological Survey

George Harlow announced the availability of a new report *Simulation of Ground-Water Flow in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, Using Variable-Direction Anisotropy in Hydraulic Conductivity to Represent Bedrock Structure* (Scientific Investigations Report 2008-5002), which is the result of collaboration among the Virginia and West Virginia Water Science Centers; the National Research Program; the Office of Ground Water, Ground-Water Resources Program; the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program; and local cooperators.

Ground-water flow was simulated using variable-direction anisotropy in hydraulic conductivity to represent the folded, fractured sedimentary rocks that underlie the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia and West Virginia. The anisotropy is a consequence of the orientations of fractures that provide preferential flow paths through the rock, such that the direction of maximum hydraulic conductivity is oriented within bedding planes, which generally strike N30°E; the direction of minimum hydraulic conductivity is perpendicular to the bedding. The finite-element model SUTRA was used to specify variable directions of the hydraulic-conductivity tensor in order to represent changes in the strike and dip of the bedding throughout the valley. The report can be accessed on the web at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2008/5002/>.

A companion article, *Comparison of alternative representations of hydraulic conductivity anisotropy in folded fractured-sedimentary rock: modeling groundwater flow in the Shenandoah Valley (USA)* has been accepted for

publication in Hydrogeology Journal. The early view pre-published version of the journal article can be accessed on the web at

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/42527x186nr51794/fulltext.pdf>.

Department of Housing and Community Development

Wyatt Little provided the following update from DHCD in absentia:

January 2009:

Award of \$2,314,551 in Virginia Community Development Block Grant

(VCDBG) funding for four projects in Altavista, Richlands, and Saltville designed to revitalize downtowns, rehabilitate homes, and renovate a dental clinic in order to provide community improvements for more than 3,300 people. The grant was awarded through the VCDBG Community Improvement fund, designed to improve localities by expanding infrastructure for new or expanding industries, providing new or improved water and sewer systems in rural areas, rehabilitating housing in declining neighborhoods, revitalizing commercial districts, providing support to small businesses, and providing facilities for a variety of needed services, such as dental clinics.

February 2009:

Award of approximately \$5.2 million to Virginia under the recently passed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) through the Community Development Block Grant. Under the Recovery Act, recipients (Virginia localities) shall give priority to projects that can award contracts based on bids within 120 days of the grant agreement. Grantees will prepare an action plan amendment. HUD will process the plans in an expedited manner, execute grant agreements, and make the funds available in each grantee's line of credit. It will be up to the locality as to which projects they will fund and some of these may be funding for water-related projects.

The money will be allocated to the following Virginia communities:

VA	VA NONENTITLEMENT	\$5,221,967
VA	ALEXANDRIA	\$335,003
VA	ARLINGTON COUNTY	\$475,768
VA	BLACKSBURG	\$170,820
VA	BRISTOL	\$76,110
VA	CHARLOTTESVILLE	\$144,637
VA	CHESAPEAKE	\$331,823
VA	CHESTERFIELD COUNTY	\$336,859
VA	COLONIAL HEIGHTS	\$23,510
VA	DANVILLE	\$283,823
VA	FAIRFAX COUNTY	\$1,610,504
VA	FREDERICKSBURG	\$62,192
VA	HAMPTON	\$292,061
VA	HARRISONBURG	\$143,252
VA	HENRICO COUNTY	\$394,656
VA	HOPEWELL	\$57,473
VA	LOUDOUN COUNTY	\$244,615
VA	LYNCHBURG	\$237,404
VA	NEWPORT NEWS	\$430,989
VA	NORFOLK	\$1,370,992
VA	PETERSBURG	\$184,012
VA	PORTSMOUTH	\$473,578
VA	PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY	\$516,528
VA	RADFORD	\$54,172
VA	RICHMOND	\$1,336,140
VA	ROANOKE	\$500,675
VA	SUFFOLK	\$150,017
VA	VIRGINIA BEACH	\$660,901
VA	WINCHESTER	\$68,076

Gayl Fowler, SAIF Water Well Inc. provided their web page URL for members to become familiar with their programs and to view a new video on their research efforts to improve construction standards for bored wells.

www.saifwater.org

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, July 21. We will meet in DEQ's second floor training center. We will begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn by 11.

(The May meeting has been canceled.)